

## Proclamation June 2021 as Pride Month

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, duly organized with a tribal governing body known as the Tribal Council according to the provisions contained in the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934; and
 WHEREAS, Article III, Section 2, of the Constitution of the Colorado River Indian Tribes guarantees that all members have certain inherent rights, namely to the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes revere the value and dignity of life and appreciates the importance of equality and freedom; and

WHEREAS, all walks of life are welcome on the Colorado River Indian Tribes' Reservation to live, work, enjoy life in the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, denounces prejudice and unfair discrimination based on age, gender identity, gender expression, race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical attributes as an affront to our fundamental principles; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes recognizes upon research that the demonstration of Pride month began in June of 1969 on the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City after Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Trans, Queer, Two-Spirited Plus ("LGBTQ+") and allied friends stood against the constant harassment and discriminatory laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes appreciates the cultural, civic, and economic contributions of LGBTQ+ community which strengthen our social welfare; and

- WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ people experienced serious violent victimization including rape, sexual assault, and aggravated or simple assault at nearly 4 times the rates experienced by non-LGBTQ+ people according to a study by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law; and
- whereas, efforts have been made for inclusion and in 2008 the Tribes enacted the Domestic & Family Violence Ordinance, wherein the Tribes expressly made protection provisions for "same-sex couples" and in 2019 the Tribes amended its Domestic Relations Code to recognize marriage between two consenting adults without regard to gender as a fundamental inherent right that is protected pursuant to CRIT'S Constitution and Bylaws; and
- whereas, it is important that people in our community, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, have the fundamental right to feel valued, safe, empowered, and supported by their peers and community leaders; and
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Tribal Council of the Colorado River Indian Reservation to hereby declare the month of June 2021 as LGBTQ Pride Month to recognize the contributions made by members of the LGBTQ+ community and to actively promote the principles of equality, liberty, and justice; and
- **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED,** that the Colorado River Indian Tribes stands united in our commitment to end all forms of violence in Indian country and the tribal or ancestral home of Colorado River Indian Tribes; and
- BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY PROCLAIMED, we call upon all Colorado River Indian Tribes citizens, law enforcement, tribal organizations, health officials and all tribal programs to speak out against the violence and actively support local efforts to assist our relatives to be safe and live their lives free from violence, to hold abusers and systems accountable, and return our nation to ways of respect, honor, love and compassion.

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## COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES' TRIBAL COUNCIL

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